

- 24/25 210 **PRESENT** - Cllrs Charlesworth (in the Chair), Heale, Welch, Gowing and Vine.
- 24/25 211 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** - none.
- 24/25 212 **ALSO PRESENT** - 0 members of the public, 0 Somerset Councillors.
- 24/25 213 **IN ATTENDANCE** - The Clerk to the Council.
- 24/25 214 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** - Cllr Charlesworth declared an interest in the future venue of our meetings.
- 24/25 215 **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING** - confirmed and signed.
- 24/25 216 **UPDATES ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS AND NOT LISTED** - none.
- 24/25 217 **SOMERSET COUNCILLORS' REPORTS** - Neither Somerset Councillor was present.
- 24/25 218 **LOCAL COMMUNITY NETWORK (LCN) & ENHANCED HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE (EHM)** - the next LCN meeting is on 20<sup>th</sup> January. Cllr Welch would attend.
- 24/25 219 **BRIAN TILBURY MEMORIAL GROUND (BTMG)** - The logs on the West plot were being removed by somebody. The roadside 'hedge' needs sorting out. Cllrs Heale and Welch would meet with a knowledgeable villager to discuss the best method.
- 24/25 220 **HIGHWAYS AND FLOODING**
- a. Speed Indicator Device - Cllr Charlesworth had not been able to do anything about this yet but would put it in hand.
  - b. Flooding - Cllr Vine had spoken to a local landowner who agreed to look at his ditches. Cllr Charlesworth has asked Mr Gill to call her again. The ditches in a field which had been causing concern would be cleared by the person responsible. The School Room field leasers would be contacted by Cllr Welch after she and Cllr Heale had been to look at the problem when they also look at the Nidon hedge.
  - c. Nidon Lane - still nothing has happened.
  - d. Problems Arising and any Other Highway Matters - we are running out of bags of grit. The Clerk would contact Highways to try and get either several bags or a dumpy bag. The grit bins had needed topping up with grit from our supply leading to this shortfall.
- 24/25 221 **PLANNING**
- a. 26/24/00005 - Erection of workshop on site of existing garage (to be demolished) - Torgyle, Holywell Road - Following consultation the Clerk had responded supporting this application. She had looked on the Planning Portal and Highways had some reservations.
  - b. Any Other Planning Matters - none.
- 24/25 222 **FOOTPATHS** - Mr Olive reported on the fallen waymarker at the Pumping Station. It was agreed that Willing Helpers be asked to reinstate this and the Council agreed to the purchase of Postcrete or similar.
- 24/25 223 **POLDEN ENVIRONMENTAL NETWORK (PEN)** - nothing to report.

- 24/25 224 **DEFIBRILLATOR/CRITICAL BLEED KIT** - Cllr Charlesworth reported that she had not yet been able to sort the lock out. She would give it urgent attention.
- 24/25 225 **WILLING HELPERS** - to be removed from the agenda.
- 24/25 226 **GARDEN COMPETITIONS** - Tallest sunflower competition for children. (These would need measuring all on the same day.) Hanging basket or garden tub competition for adults. These to be visible without entering private property. Judging to take place on 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2025. Cllr Charlesworth would arrange advertising. Children's awards need purchasing. The Hanging Basket cup for adults.
- 24/25 227 **PRESENT** - Cllr Charlesworth left the room.
- 24/25 228 **VENUE FOR MEETINGS IN NEXT FINANCIAL YEAR** - Following discussion it was agreed that the venue should change after the March meeting. Future meetings to be held in the Committee Room at the Village Hall starting at 7.30pm.
- 24/25 229 **PRESENT** - Cllr Charlesworth returned to the room.
- 24/25 230 **HOLYWELL AND COMMEMORATIVE SEAT** - Cllr Welch would endeavour to get a local expert to assess what is required in the way of refurbishment regarding the structure of the Holy Well so that quotes can be sought and grants applied for. Cllr Charlesworth provided information on a selection of benches appropriate for installing at the Holy Well. A bench which is currently significantly discounted was selected and Cllr Charlesworth would order this. Cllr Charlesworth would also apply for grants for both the bench and the work required on the structure of the Holy Well. All these matters were agreed.
- 24/25 231 **FINANCE**
- a. Accounts check - the bank statements had arrived after lunch today so the Clerk had been able to update the accounts which were approved. She had the account book and statements with her so the statements could be checked.
  - b. Cheques for signature - Chq.1055 Stepping Out (Grass cutting x ½ year) £162.50; Chq.1056 Clerk (Salary and expenses) £442.10.
  - c. Bank Mandate - Because of the time constrains and our previous problems the Clerk had avoided starting the process again over the Christmas and New Year holidays. She would start it again soon.
  - d. Budget/Precept Setting - Following some debate it was agreed to set the precept at £17,100. This included funds to cover any unavoidable expenses incurred as a result of Somerset County cutbacks including Highways and also included some expenses for work on the Nidon land East and West.
  - e. Any other finance matters - none.
- 24/25 232 **INFORMATION, CIRCULATION, DISTRIBUTION** - Clerks and Councils Direct.
- 24/25 233 **URGENT CORRESPONDENCE** - none.
- 24/25 234 **ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING(S)** - Village Cleanup; Chandlers/Holywell Road bend.

24/25 235 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** - Thursday, 13<sup>th</sup> February 2025 in Edington School Room at 7.15pm.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm.

Chairman .....

Date .....